THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Procedure of child adoption

576. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Non-Governmental Organisations have pointed out that existing procedures of child adoption in the country are faulty leading to child trafficking; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Proposal for OBC status to Muslims in Assam

577. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Assam is considering a proposal to grant all the Muslims in the State the status of Other Backward Classes (OBC's);

(b) if so, whether Government have received any formal proposal from the Government of Assam in this behalf; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The Govt. of Assam is examining whether the prevailing socio-economic condition and the educational backwardness of the Muslims justify them to be included in the State List of Backward Classes. The Supreme Court in its judgment delivered on 16-11-1992 in the case of Indira Sawhney and others *Vs.* Union of India and others directed the

Government of India and each of the State Government and the Administration of Union Territories to constitute a permanent body for entertaining, examining and recommending upon requests for inclusion of castes/communities in the list of OBCs. These Bodies (Commissions) function independently and have their own procedure for examining the requests received for inclusion of castes/sub-castes in the Lists of Backward Classes. In view of this, the subject matter of incursion of castes/communities in the State List of OBCs is dealt with by the State Government concerned.

Proposal for grant-in-aid for new project at Dimapur, Nagaland

†578. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for grant-in-aid for introduction of a new project by the Leema Ayyar Memorial School at Dimapur in Nagaland is under consideration of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof together with the reasons for the proposal remaining pending for the last several years; and

(c) by when Government would take a final decision on this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Views of States on creamy layer amongst the Backward Classes

579. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether all States have given their suggestions and views on the issue of creamy layer amongst the backward classes with regard to the reservation policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.